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ROBERT S. PEABODY FOUNDATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGY

ANNUAL REPORT
1958

PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Andover, Massachusetts

January 5, 1959

Mr. John M. Kemper
Clerk of the Board of Trustees
Phillips Academy
Andover, Massachusetts

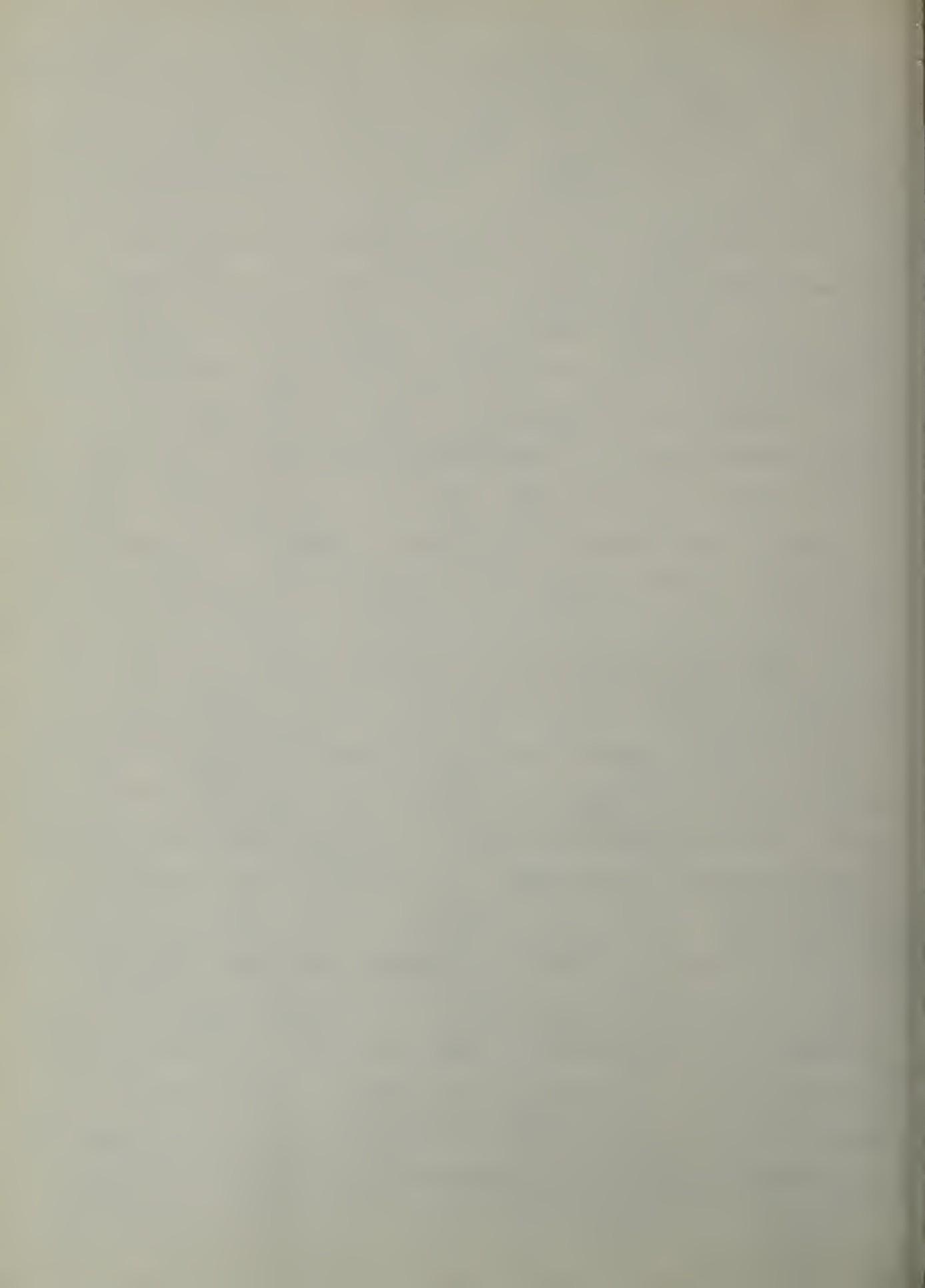
Dear Mr. Kemper:

You have asked me to set forth for the Trustees a statement of the program and policies of the Robert S. Peabody Foundation for Archaeology in addition to reporting on the activities of the Foundation during the past year. It may not be amiss to delve into history to a certain extent.

If we may begin with Genesis, we find that in 1901 Mr. Peabody deeded to the Trustees his collection of prehistoric Indian implements together with a sum of money which he wished used to establish a Department of Archaeology. The Foundation was not to bear his name during his lifetime. After his death the Foundation as residuary legatee received further sums of money from his estate.

At the time when the gift was made, Archaeology was an ill-defined study. It is a matter of question whether the full meaning of their acceptance of the gift was realized by the Board of Trustees to whom Mr. Peabody presented his collection and funds. Archaeology itself was struggling to emerge from antiquarianism, and still very much in the process of gathering facts from which ambitious archaeologists hoped to be able to draw hypotheses and theories governing the development of human society.

At that time, a few practicing archaeologists were engaged in careful and meticulous fieldwork. They were guided by the principle that they should record and observe every detail concerning objects which they unearthed. While these men, fathers of the true archaeological method, were slowly feeling their way, another group of men who called themselves archaeologists were rooting out objects of primitive art and industry with the sole aim of collecting



things. To these men, the things which they dug up were the ultimate goal, and he who succeeded in gathering more than any other was deemed most able. The former class, however, had eyes fixed on the people who made the objects, their lives, their customs, and their ancestors and descendants. Unfortunately, the tenets of this group of archaeologists seem not to have been of great importance in early years of the Foundation.

I find no record to support the belief that Dr. Alfred V. Kidder was appointed by the Trustees in 1914, as the result of a recommendation by a committee of scholars, known as the Advisory Committee. Dr. Kidder, however, acknowledges in the preface to PECOS his obligation to Hiram Bingham and Roland B. Dixon who recommended his appointment. Dr. Kidder immediately set out on a survey of possible sites for excavations in the Southwest, and in the subsequent winter prepared a prospectus regarding the potentialities of the ruined pueblo of Pecos as the site of extensive and intensive excavations.

The Pecos Project, utilizing to great advantage a share of the income of the Foundation, was carried on from 1915-1929, with the exception of two years during which Dr. Kidder was in the Army. The series of publications arising from the work, terminated by the recently-published PECOS, NEW MEXICO: ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTES, forms an important and substantial contribution to our knowledge of the prehistory of the Southwest.

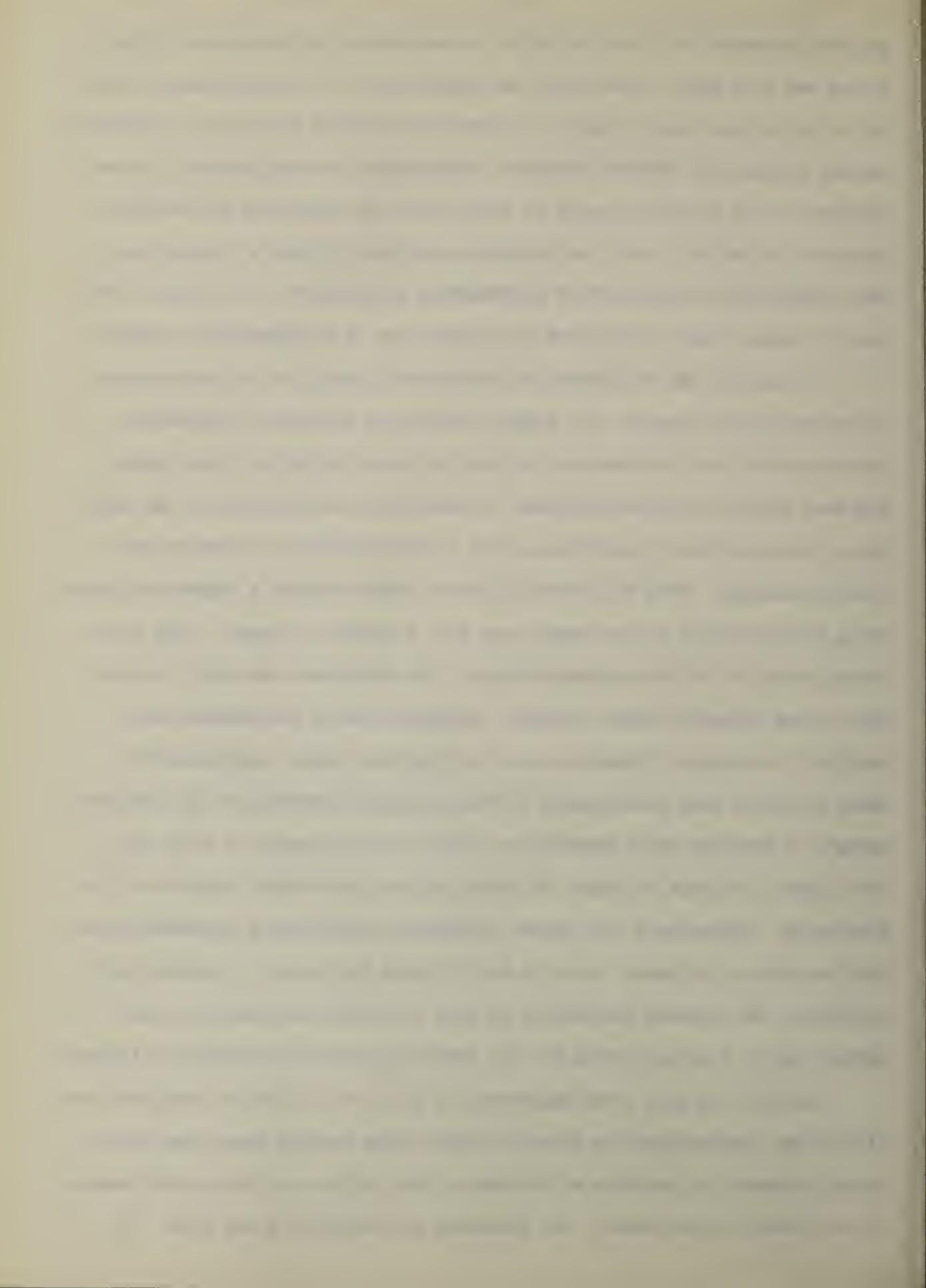
Excavations at Pecos are probably among the most significant in the New World. While Dr. Nels C. Nelson, of the American Museum of Natural History had recently demonstrated that the stratigraphic principle first defined by an English engineer, William Smith in 1813, could be applied to interpretation of prehistory in the Galisteo Basin of New Mexico, this was exceptional. All stratigraphic work is based on the observation that in a series of undisturbed strata the oldest are at the bottom and the youngest at the top. This doctrine formed the cornerstone on which historical geology was built. It had been



applied successfully in the Old World to demonstrate the sequence of Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages; to set forth the prehistory of the Mediterranean World; and to unfold the story of Egypt. Excavations at Pecos carried on by Phillips Academy through the Peabody Foundation demonstrated the application of stratigraphy to the scientific world so firmly that its usefulness and validity could not be denied. Also, the Foundation published Kidder's pioneer work - "AN INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF SOUTHWESTERN ARCHAEOLOGY" - the first interpretive summary which synthesized the archaeology of a circumscribed region.

In another way the Foundation contributed greatly to the development of archaeological thought. Dr. Kidder invited all practicing southwestern archaeologists to a conference to be held at Pecos during the field season. Men came from all over the Southwest to examine the excavations and the specimens, to discuss their significance, and in the discussion to compare each other's findings. From the Pecos Conference there resulted a scheme for organizing the prehistory of the Pueblo area into a series of stages. This soon became known as The Pecos Classification. The Conference was such a success that it has become an annual fixture. Successive Pecos conferences have modified the original Classification, but they have never compromised the basic principle that there should be free and open discussion of all pertinent aspects of problems under examination. The Pecos Conference is still held each summer, although no longer at Pecos, and no longer under auspices of the Foundation. Furthermore this annual conference established a precedent which has been widely followed: there is now a Plains Conference, a Southeastern Conference, an Iroquois Conference, as well as others, all modeled on the pattern set by a group working for the Peabody Foundation and Phillips Academy.

At the time when I was appointed, in 1933, Dr. Kidder had completed his field work, had published on several facets of the work at Pecos, and had recently accepted the position of Chairman of the Division of Historical Research of the Carnegie Institution. Mr. Moorehead was gathering loose ends. The



museum was gathering dust and cobwebs.

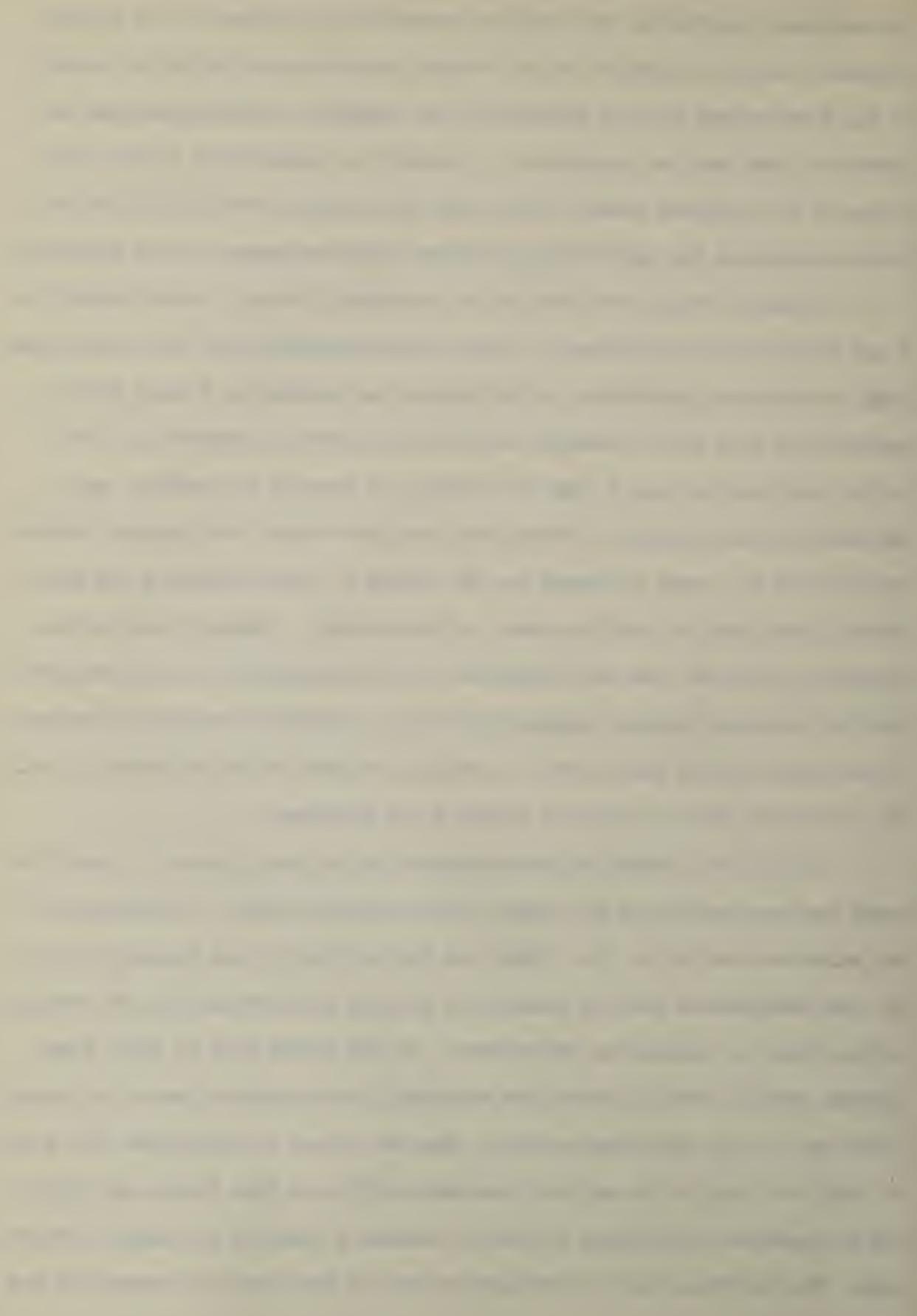
Collections were in a sorry state. Although collections from Pecos had been catalogued, washed, restored where possible, and put away, many other collections were unwashed, uncatalogued, and shoved into corners in the soap-, starch-, or cigar-boxes in which they had been received. On the heels of the severe depression had come a make-work policy under which young men with no training were employed to carry collections from basement to attic, and from attic to basement again. That this was considerable labor can be appreciated when one realises that there were no attic stairs and that people had to climb a ladder to reach the attic. It seems likely that untrained persons were similarly employed to "sort" collections. The result of this philanthropy was a large degree of chaos; there was mixing of collections, breakage of many specimens, and loss of many others. Through a misguided policy of distributing collections, large numbers of specimens were sent out before they had been studied; in some cases, apparently, to persons who contributed to the financial support of some project. As a consequence, with the exception of the well-documented collection from Pecos, much of the material in the museum was, as it stood, valueless. It was apparent, however, that through long, carefully-organized, and painstaking research it might be possible to return a substantial portion of this nearly-valueless material to a useful status.

It seems difficult to account for the sorry state in which the museum and the Department found itself. It may in part have been due to the conditions imposed by the Founder. The Trustees had no real control over the first Director and Curator other than that which was possible through the manipulation of funds. At any rate, through the years a vicious circle came into being; funds were diverted from the Foundation effectively curtailing questionable activities of the Staff. This diversion also made it impossible to retain

the necessary technician, and retarded immeasurably progress of the current program. Conditions imposed by the Founder precluding any effective control by the Trustees may also be responsible for continued misunderstandings between that body and the Foundation. A sincere and sympathetic Standing Committee of the Trustees seems to have been the exception rather than the rule. This circumstance has materially interfered with development of the Foundation.

During my first years here it was necessary for me to orient myself in a new field, and to take stock. It soon became apparent that the at-that-time shaky structure of prehistory in New England was erected on a large body of generalities with little accurate and controlled data to support it. The crying need was for such a body of evidence, as precise as possible, and gathered without prejudice. During the next years there were repeated conversations with Mr. James C. Sawyer and Mr. Philip L. Reed concerning the Foundation, then known as the Department of Archaeology. Because funds had been improperly diverted from the Foundation, it was necessary to scrimp and save. Work was severely hampered because there was no technical assistance whatever. It was clear that we should have to confine our work to the Northeast, if only for the reason that we could not afford to go elsewhere.

In 1933 the library of the Foundation was in sorry shape. If ever the books had been shelved in any order it was long-since lost. No catalogue of any value was available. Dr. Kidder has told me that it was quicker for him to find books needed for his research by driving to Cambridge than by hunting through shelves outside his office door! In the latter part of 1933, Miss Dorothy Bodwell bravely took on the seemingly insurmountable task of bringing order out of this bibliothetic chaos. She was forced to relinquish this work in 1934, but happily for us, she returned in 1948, as Mrs. Bloom, and continues to supervise our library so that it remains a valuable and useful research tool. To Miss Eades and her predecessors we are indebted for cooperation and



interest in our problems. Chairmen of the Library Committee have also been most generous in their support of the effort to maintain our library in good order.

During my first years I made visits to leading museums in the east in order to study systems for cataloguing specimens, and techniques used in exhibitions. Based on these observations, we evolved a modern system of cataloguing our specimens, and in 1936 we inaugurated the new system. We also drew up plans for constructing modern storage facilities, for remodelling certain exhibition cases and installing new exhibits, and for repainting and remodeling the building, blocking up supernumerary doors and installing modern wiring and electric lights. (At that time we still had "hedgehog chandeliers" in which there were carbon-filament bulbs!)

Mr. Frederick Johnson, who joined the staff in the spring of 1936, was of the utmost assistance in drawing up these plans. Mr. Moorehead, then in his last year, agreed to the suggestions.

The program of field research on which we embarked in 1936 was an ambitious one, intended to discover and elaborate upon the stratigraphic sequence which we believed to exist in the archaeology of northeastern North America. By this time archaeology had become a scientific endeavor of rather broad scope. Archaeologists had learned that there was more to excavation than simply digging up things, recording horizontal placement and stratigraphic position, and observing conditions. They had begun to turn to botanists, zoologists and other natural scientists for interpretation of their data; similarly, natural scientists were turning to archaeologists for data which broadened understanding of their respective fields. Archaeology was becoming more intimately associated with botany than with any other field, with the possible exception of geology. This concern with broad problems overlapping several scientific fields, together with the peculiar nature of the North-

eastern area resulted in the collection of vital information concerning the development of human cultures. However valuable this data might be, only rarely were examples of the handiwork of earlier inhabitants of the region secured for display in exhibition cases.

The outstanding example of the kind of research in which we were engaged is to be found in the BOYLSTON STREET FISHWEIR. Research on these structures, carried on in excavations for new buildings for two insurance companies, The New England Mutual Life and the John Hancock Life, and for IBM produced only stakes sharpened by men who used rather crude tools. The stakes, however, were inbedded in silts in which were included the remains of a host of organisms. The stakes, the silts, and the organisms provided material for the study. Data recovered from excavations for the two insurance company buildings proved to be extensive, and to be the concern of many scientific fields. It was at once apparent to Mr. Johnson, who was in charge of the dig, that the problem was an interdisciplinary one, requiring for its solution specific research techniques peculiar to a number of distinct fields. He therefore called on eleven other men to work with him in a collaborative undertaking without precedent in the New World. While there had been some analogous studies, particularly in Scandinavia, THE BOYLSTON STREET FISHWEIR, published by the Foundation in 1942 was the outstanding example of cooperation among several disciplines. The operation was repeated, but with different personnel, in preparation of THE BOYLSTON STREET FISHWEIR, II, published in 1949. These studies continue as models, for from the beginning the eyes of archaeologists were opened to the value of a joint attack. Once again, Phillips Academy through the Peabody Foundation had blazed a new scientific trail.

In 1936 it was incumbent on the staff to bring standards of the Foundation to a high plane. It is true that Dr. Kidder's work at Pecos had

received the most favorable comment; however, for other reasons the Department of Archaeology had become the laughing stock of the archaeological world. We therefore undertook not only our program of field research, but waged a steady campaign to restore the reputation of the Foundation. A significant part of this campaign was the presentation of results of our own research for debate in scientific circles. It was also part of our plan to make the Foundation of service to the archaeological world. To that end we have accepted and discharged positions of considerable responsibility in the American Anthropological Association and the Society for American Archaeology. People began to see that the Foundation was capable of good and useful work in spite of past performances.

Annual meetings of the American Anthropological Association were customarily held during Christmas week, and on several occasions the Association met here in Andover. Such meetings were held in 1931, in 1935, and in 1941. That in 1941, marked by a symposium on the Northeast in which many scholars participated, was intended to celebrate the opening of the renovated museum, as well as our assumption of the name Robert S. Peabody Foundation for Archaeology, long used by the Treasurer of Phillips Academy to designate the funds in his care.

Papers delivered at the symposium were assembled with some difficulty and published in 1946 as *MAN IN NORTHEASTERN NORTH AMERICA*, Volume 3 of our new series--Papers of the Robert S. Peabody Foundation for Archaeology. This volume was widely used in college courses, and is now out of print. It is still extensively quoted.

War interrupted our program, and made it impossible to proceed with analysis of collections along with other duties which devolved on us. After the war it was no longer possible to carry on field work as we had, taking crews of Phillips Academy boys to work for two months for the handsome wage

of \$1.00 per week and all found. Before the war we could house and feed nine people for two months, including rent of the house and wages of a cook, for less than \$2400. When work was resumed after the war the sum of \$650 was all that was available in our budget for the summer's work. This made it necessary to resort to various expedients, including accepting college graduate students who could pay their board and were glad to have the practical experience in field excavating.

It had been clear in 1936 that what was needed was a guiding policy. It was agreed that work should be concentrated in northeastern North America, a decision based on the need for sound archaeological information from the region and reinforced by a substantial saving in transportation costs as compared with those to be incurred were we to work at greater distance from Andover. It was also decided that work, once undertaken, should be complete and exhaustive, embracing every field applicable to the problem in hand. These principles were restated in the memorandum prepared in 1944 for Mr. James Gould, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Trustees on the Robert S. Peabody Foundation. The Annual Reports, prepared for the Trustees since the year 1939, have covered operations since this policy was adopted. They give a reasonable account of fieldwork, and of activities of the Staff.

Decision to include every field of endeavor which might be called on to aid in interpreting data resulted in the collaborative attack on the fishweir under Boston's Back Bay. It also led to a close liaison between the Foundation and scientists working under other disciplines. Among these men were Dr. Hugh M. Raup, now Director of the Harvard Forest, the late Dr. Kirk Bryan, and Drs. Elso S. Barghoorn and I. W. Bailey of Harvard University, Dr. Joseph Hartshorn, now of the U. S. Geological Survey, and many others. As a result of Dr. Raup's interest, he collaborated with Mr. Johnson in a study of the growth of salt marshes over sites once occupied by Indians but

now lying below the high tide mark. Consideration of geological problems inevitably ensued, with the result that GRASSY ISLAND, Papers of the Robert S. Peabody Foundation for Archaeology, Volume I, No. 2, by Johnson and Raup, became one of the pioneer publications on problems involving the growth of salt marshes.

Through Dr. Raup's conviction that archaeology might be in a position to aid in the interpretation of botanical and geological data which might be gathered on a survey of the Alaska Highway, Mr. Johnson was invited to accompany a party sent out by Harvard University in 1944. The work of this survey party was designed as a unique collaboration of the scientific fields represented. It produced such valuable data and such startling conclusions that it was agreed that a second party should be sent out. Field research of the second party was confined to a carefully selected region in order to produce a maximum of detailed information. Since the expedition was going to the theoretical vestibule of America, its findings were expected to cast light on the migrations of people into the New World and the Northeast. It was of especial interest to the Foundation to determine whether or not a link could be found between the boreal peoples of the Old World and those of northeastern North America, between whose archaeologic remains striking similarities have long been known. Diligent search was made by the 1944 party, and by the Andover-Harvard Yukon Expedition, which took the field in 1948, but although new archaeological complexes were discovered, and much new and extremely valuable data were gathered, no link was discovered, nor has any yet been unearthed in that general area.

In 1944, archaeologists learned that an incredible number of multi-purpose dams were to be constructed by the Bureau of Reclamation and the Corps of Engineers. Since about 80% of prehistoric peoples lived in about 2% of the continent--the river bottoms--it was obvious that the reservoirs

would destroy a tremendous amount of vitally-needed data. Experience with WPA indicated that great quantities of information would be needlessly destroyed. It was necessary to organize as speedily as possible an archaeological body which could advise, criticise and supervise the salvage work. Mr. Johnson, acting through the Society for American Archaeology, was instrumental in the organization of The Committee for the Recovery of Archaeological Remains. As Secretary of this Committee for ten years, Mr. Johnson played an important role in preparing provisions which were inserted in basic laws passed by Congress, making mandatory adequate surveys of pool areas and preservation of scientific data which were part of our American heritage. Such rules govern all undertakings of this sort and have accompanied the Inter-Agency Archaeological Salvage Program. They have also established a precedent under which archaeological salvage work can be done with Federal funds under the current Federal highway program. Since the first field party was sent out thirteen years ago, more than \$1,000,000 has been spent on this salvage work, producing in excess of 150 monographs and papers. Some of these describe prehistoric cultures which were unsuspected a decade ago. The Foundation's contribution through Mr. Johnson's labors has been widely recognized in the United States, Europe, and the Near East, where a program modeled on this one is in operation.

As the result of a conference in New York called by the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Archaeological Research to consider implications and problems raised by Dr. Willard Libby's discovery of the basic principles of dating by means of radiocarbon, Mr. Johnson was appointed Chairman of a committee to consult with Dr. Libby. This committee, appointed by Dr. Harry L. Shapiro, President of the American Anthropological Association, expanded by inclusion of a geologist, was charged with securing specimens that had been dated by other means in order to calibrate the apparatus, and test a number of basic

assumptions. The committee screened all possible samples, and eventually selected those for submission. Correspondence between predicted dates and dates secured by the radiocarbon method was so great that the method was deemed applicable. Although some scientists have expressed reservations about the method, it has since been generally accepted, and nearly forty laboratories have been established in the United States, Europe and satellite countries of the U.S.S.R. Refinements of technique have made it possible to determine ages as great as 55,000 years, while the laboratory at the University of Groningen has declared that ages as great as 70,000 years are within reach.

The Foundation became the center for information regarding radiocarbon dating, and in recent years we have maintained our active interest in this field of research. To this end we acted as hosts to the Conference on Radiocarbon Dating, under a grant from the National Science Foundation. This conference, held in Andover October 21-23, 1954, was called for the express purpose of bringing together nuclear chemists and physicists in whose laboratories analyses were made, and the archaeologists, botanists, and geologists who collected samples and interpreted results. Both groups left the meetings with a more complete understanding of problems with which they were forced to deal. All felt that the conference was such a success that a second one should be called, and that scholars from other countries should be invited. In this way, it was hoped, steps leading toward a better understanding of events in the late Pleistocene Epoch might be coordinated. The International Conference on Radiocarbon Dating convened in Andover October 1, 1956, and adjourned October 4. In attendance were not only outstanding American scientists, but also scientists from Canada, England, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Germany, Italy, Austria, and Australia. Participants were most enthusiastic about the reception which they were accorded; most had never seen a school such as Phillips Academy before; many had never heard of the Academy before they were

invited to attend. If we may judge from correspondence, participants carried away not only a sense of satisfaction and of accomplishment, but also the best possible impression of the Academy. The success of the conference was such that we have just been approached by the physicists involved. They are eager to hold a special conference here as soon as it can conveniently be arranged.

In late April, 1956, a conference of archaeologists was held at the Peabody Foundation, co-sponsored by the Wenner-Gren Foundation, with the express purpose of attempting to work out some schematic organization of culture stages in terms of the increasingly more accurate time scale for American prehistory. This was attended by archaeologists from the universities of California, Texas, Missouri, Michigan, and Southern Illinois, from the Pennsylvania State Museum, from Yale, and from Harvard, as well as by the Foundation staff. The proceedings of this conference have been privately distributed but not published. In this way they have had considerable influence on archaeological thought and developing theory.

One result of the International Conference on Radiocarbon Dating was the appointment of a committee charged with investigating possible means of producing data regarding radiocarbon dates in some form which could be readily utilized by research workers. The Foundation had been entering data regarding each date on file cards ever since it became evident that there would be a considerable number with which to deal. We had found that the 1500 cards which we had accumulated were becoming unmanageable. We therefore took the position that, because they could be coded and sorted easily, punch cards were more suitable than any other form in which the information could be issued. Others who attended the meeting had experienced difficulties such as ours, and they became active proponents of a file of punch cards. The Committee explored various

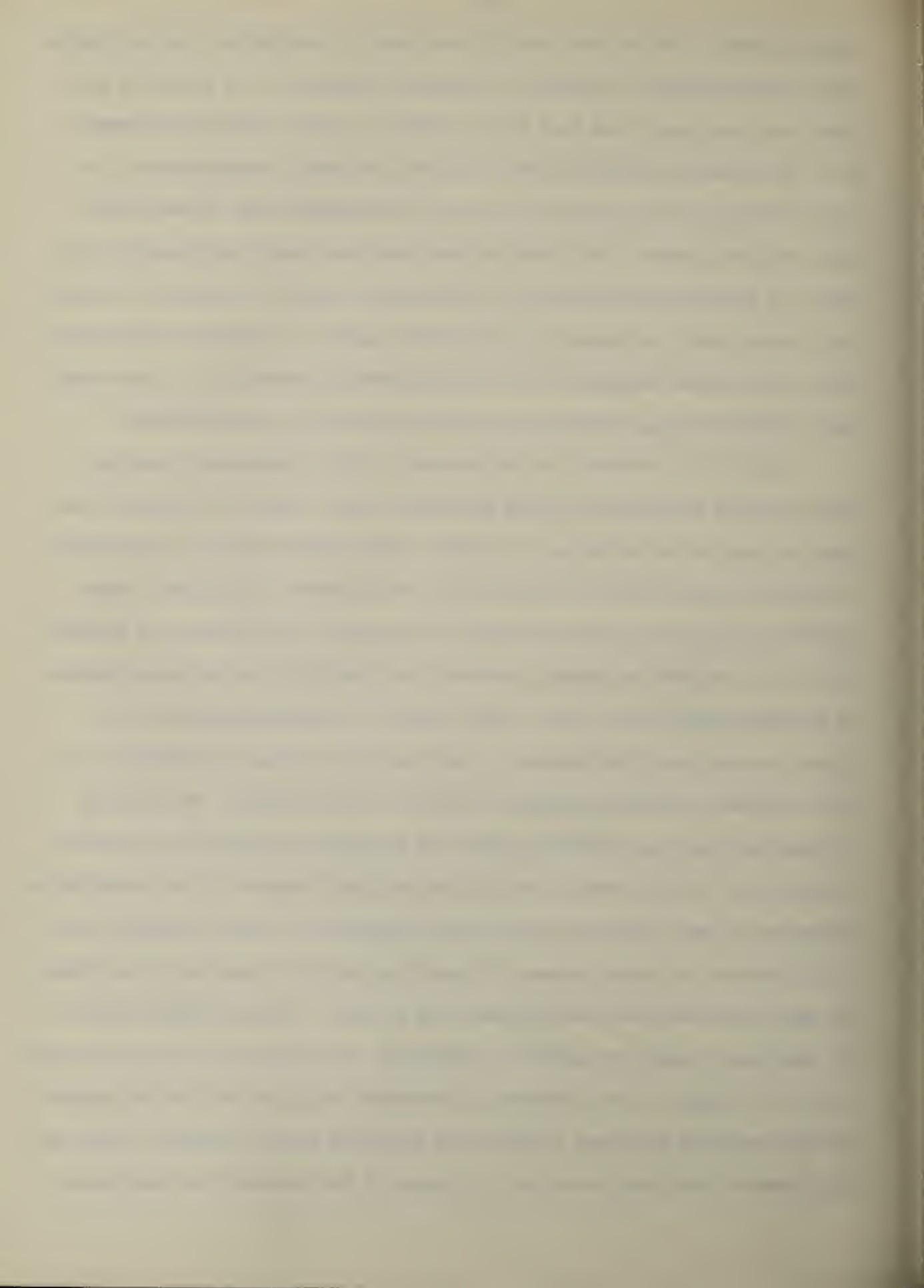
means of reproducing the necessary data on cards, finally settling on specifications regarding size of card, method of notching, and other mechanical details.

When it became obvious that cards could not be reproduced by other means, Mr. Johnson in consultation with the Committee prepared a prospectus and questionnaire regarding precoded punch cards bearing all pertinent information regarding each radiocarbon date. This literature was mailed to more than 1500 scientists in both hemispheres, with the assistance of the Wenner-Gren Foundation which subsidized this phase of the venture. When it became apparent that response to this preliminary mailing indicated the possibility of sufficient interest circulars were mailed to approximately 20,000 persons. In June, 1958, a non-profit corporation, Radiocarbon Dates Association, Inc., was established with Frederick Johnson as President, and Douglas S. Byers as Secretary-Treasurer. Dr. Richard F. Flint, of Yale, joins the two officers to form the Board of Trustees. The Association will distribute to subscribers sets of 5000 cards each bearing all data concerning a determined date. The cards will be precoded to indicate field of interest, geographical location, character of the specimen, and other data universally applicable, as well as the laboratory which made the determination. The National Science Foundation has provided a subvention so that copy for plates may be prepared with special technical assistance in our building. Subscriptions to the series have been received from Canadian and American museums and universities, as well as from Europe, Africa, India, Australia, New Zealand, the Middle East, Taiwan, Japan, Mexico, and South America. Inquiries about subscriptions have been received from Poland and Yugoslavia.

It is obvious that the policy of inquiring into every phase of a problem has led to greatly broadened interests, and brought the Foundation into contact with people in many parts of the world which might not otherwise have

heard its name. But of even greater importance is realization that developing human culture cannot be viewed as an isolated phenomenon. As primitive cultures have developed, they have been dependent as much on their environment as on the stimulus which they have received from human contemporaries. In the New World as well as the Old, stages of development have characterized man's cultural growth. To a great extent these have been conditioned by climatic and environmental factors of a permissive rather than compulsive nature. Such factors have, for example, prevented the spread of primitive horticulture into regions where shortness of the growing season prevents it. On the other hand, gradual warming trends have permitted expansion of horticulture.

While it is difficult to include much of this theoretical point of view in museum displays, the broad principles which underly it have been the basis of much of our thinking. They have guided installations of exhibitions of material from southern New England and from northern New England. Much research has gone into the preparation of each case, and because this research has been as complete as humanly possible, the installations are authoritative. In a museum such as ours, with a small staff, it becomes incumbent on Mr. Johnson and me to do the research, select material, design the display, and, where necessary, restore specimens in need of such attention. Mr. William A. Davis has been our invaluable guide and counselor in designing the layout of each case, and has carried forward the technical aspects of the installation, including, in many instances, the entire construction of case furniture, and the formulation of color schemes. Without his skillful execution of our ideas we should have made far less progress than we have. We were greatly aided in the painting of cases by Charles E. Schofield, our janitor for more than twenty years. His death on the nineteenth of December brought a halt to the program of basic painting which was to have been completed during vacation. Plans for the layout of four more cases are in process of development, but they cannot



be completed for some time.

In the process of analyzing collections for installation of exhibitions three papers have been prepared or put in final form. Mr. Johnson has prepared a study of some extremely significant collections which we received under the will of the late Howard Torrey. This study will be published in a forthcoming issue of the Bulletin of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society. This research bears fruit in tangible form in the exhibitions.

Mr. Byers prepared and published in the October issue of the Bulletin of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society an account of a site in eastern Connecticut and another in southern Rhode Island which were excavated by amateurs with assistance from the Foundation in 1935. Collections from these small sites now on exhibition, have not been understandable until recent discoveries brought forward evidence which permits reasonable interpretation of the observed phenomena. Analysis of the collection from Ellsworth Falls brought out the probability that an older element was present in the lowest level, and checking of the data seems to substantiate the hypothesis that an extremely old type of stone industry is represented. This led to still further searches afield, including visits to the Berkeley and Los Angeles campuses of the University of California, the Arizona State Museum, and the Denver Museum of Natural History. Furthermore, a recent visit to the University of North Carolina disclosed the fact that strikingly similar material comes from old sites on the gorge of the Yadkin River.

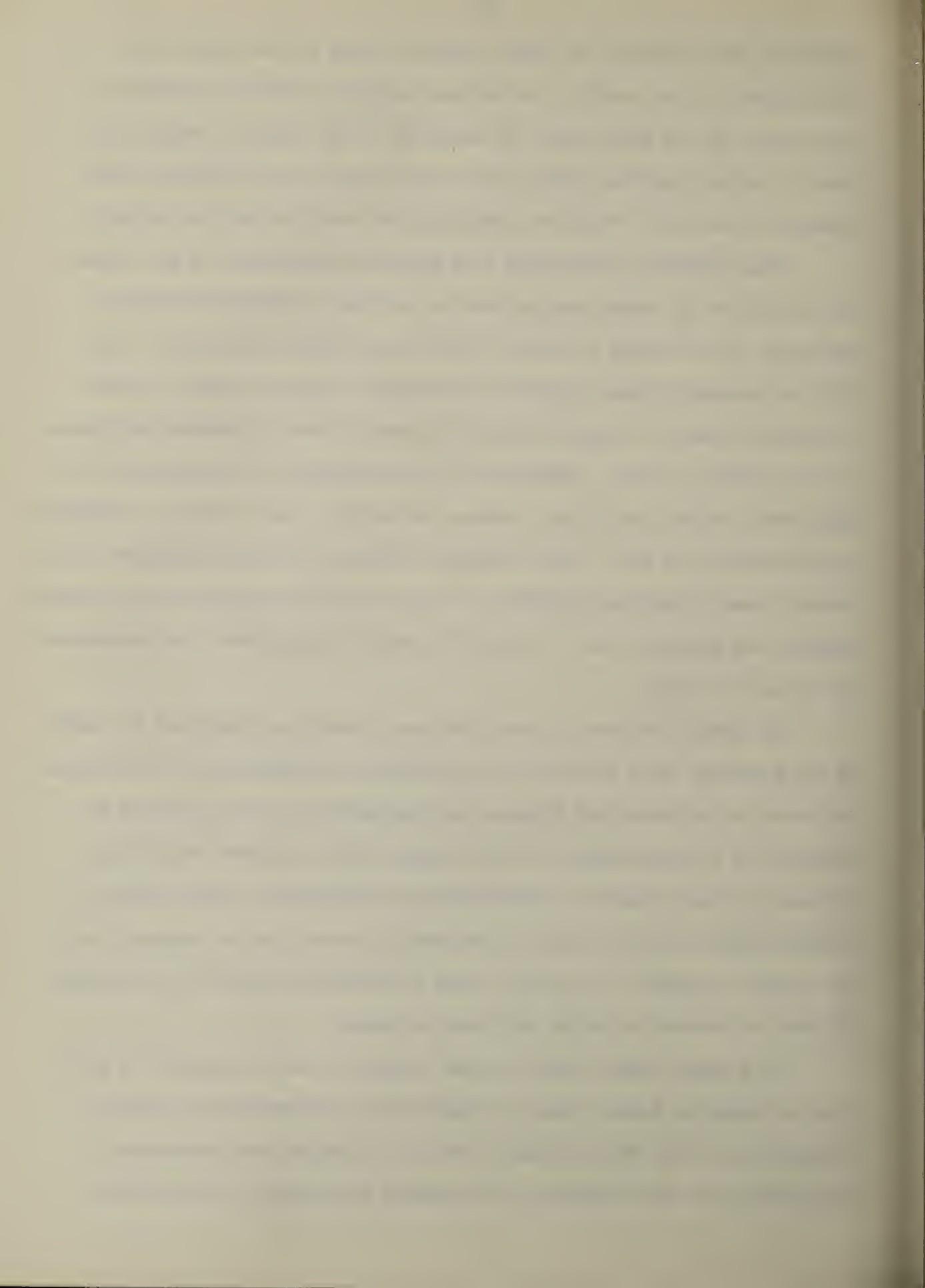
As an example of the ramifications of research on collections we may cite the work now under way for an exhibition of industries and skills of inhabitants of the Nevin Shell Heap, Blue Hill Falls, Maine. These people killed swordfish and used the swords for making a variety of tools. In order to answer the question "How do you know that these tools are made of sword-fish sword?" it was necessary to demonstrate from fresh swords the structure which characterizes this material. So that he might use proper terms in

describing the structure, Mr. Byers appealed to one of the outstanding ichthyologists in the country. No one knew anything about the structure of the swords, nor did anyone know the functions of the organs. Inquiry still goes on, and we hope that before long it may lead to a more complete understanding of the word. Thus does archaeological analysis lead one afield.

Broad interests and insight into problems have brought to Mr. Johnson the distinction of having been selected as reviewer of PLEISTOCENE MAN IN SAN DIEGO, by Dr. George F. Carter of the Johns Hopkins University. This book has provoked violent opinions in scientific circles, since it claims on various grounds to demonstrate the existence of man in southern California at a very remote period. Questions of the interpretation of geological evidence were involved, and so Mr. Johnson invited Dr. John F. Miller, of Harvard, to collaborate with him. Their extremely critical review was published in the October issue of AMERICAN ANTIQUITY. It has been generally accepted by archaeologists and geologists but it is yet too early to judge where the debate with the author will end.

Mr. Byers' interest in primitive stone industries, initiated by study of the Ellsworth Falls collection, and fostered by examination of collections and sites in California and Arizona, was responsible for his selection as reviewer for a paper dealing with the Chapala Basin, in Lower California, written by a geographer from the University of California. This work also claimed greater antiquity than is indicated by other lines of evidence, and the review, to appear in the April issue of AMERICAN ANTIQUITY, is extremely critical of research on which the paper was based.

In the last annual report we had occasion to mention samples of wood from the Boylston Street Fishweir obtained from caissons sunk to provide foundations for the IBM building in Boston. According to a radiocarbon determination by the laboratory of the Humble Oil Company, the structure

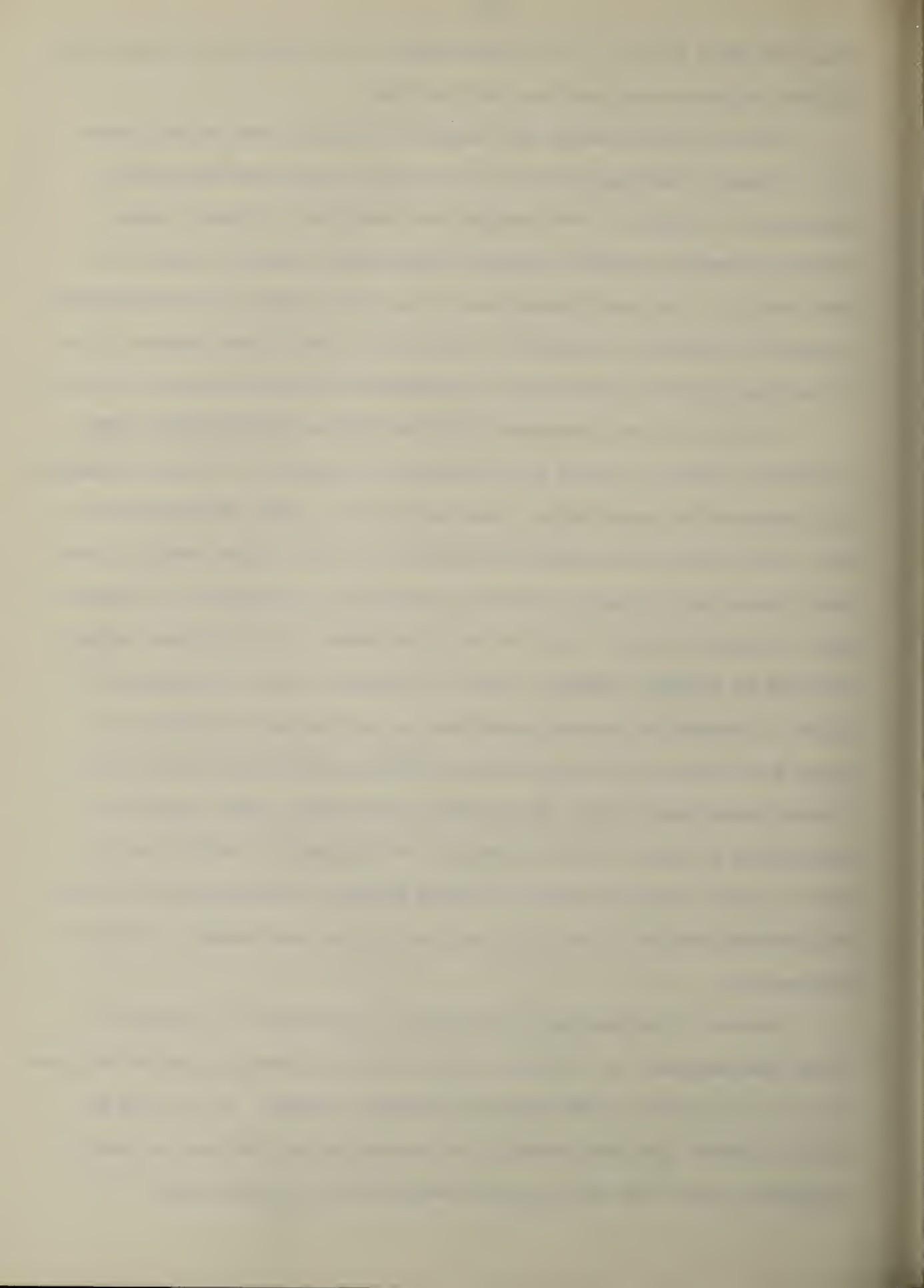


dates from about 2500 B.C. It is interesting to note that this determination confirms estimates made more than ten years ago.

We also spoke of having sent samples of charcoal from the Bull Brook site at Ipswich, Massachusetts to the University of Michigan Radiocarbon Laboratory for analysis. Four samples were submitted. Of these, three yielded an average age which indicates that men were living in Ipswich at about 7000 B.C. The fourth sample was so small that results are not regarded as being so reliable; it indicated a date close to 2000 years younger. This is the oldest record of man north of the Tennessee Valley and east of Illinois.

On October 30 we distributed PECOS NEW MEXICO: ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTES, by Alfred V. Kidder, Volume 5 of the Papers of the Robert S. Peabody Foundation. This completes the Pecos Project, launched when Dr. Kidder was appointed in 1914. Print order and circulation statistics for this volume reveal in dramatic fashion the increase in stature achieved by the Foundation in eighteen years. Whereas the print order for our first number in the "Papers" series, TWO SITES ON MARTHA'S VINEYARD, totaled 750 copies, and we distributed 100 copies to professional archaeologists and to institutions with whom we exchange publications, the print order for PECOS was 1500 copies, and we distributed approximately 500. Of the latter, four went to USSR, fifteen to institutions in Great Britain and Europe, and fourteen to institutions in North and South America outside the United States. We exchange with 86 institutions which publish in our field, and in this way keep abreast of current publications.

Analysis of collections is assisting in preparation of material for future publications. Mr. Johnson is at work when opportunity permits on preparation of his section of the report of the Yukon studies. It is still too early to predict just when botanical and archaeological data can be brought together in final form, but progress toward the goal is being made.



Mr. Byers has also made some progress in the study of collections gathered in Maine, and is working toward the preparation of a manuscript on the Ellsworth Falls digs.

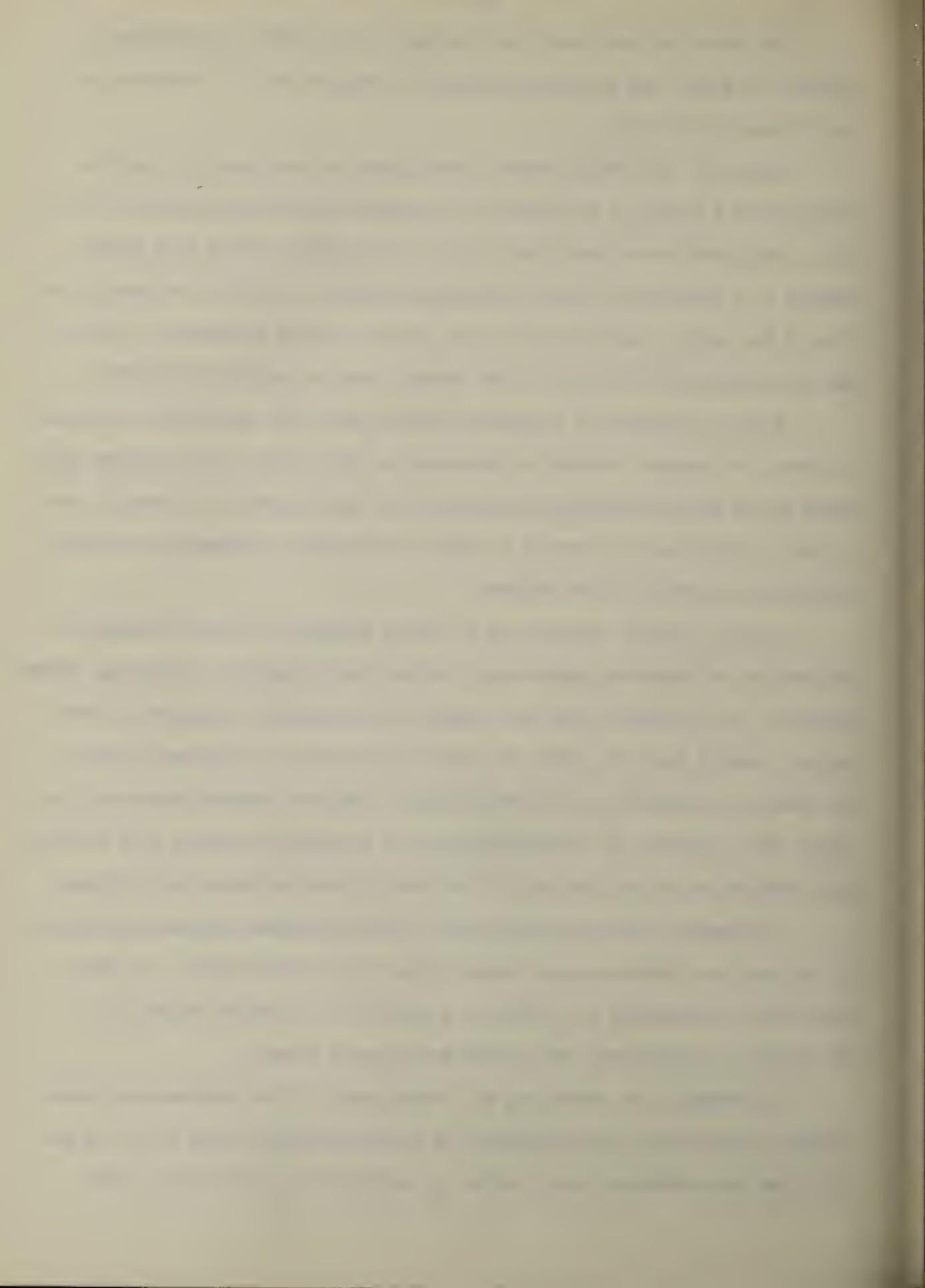
Papers on the Archaic Stage in North America which were to have been published as a memoir by the Society for American Archaeology under the editorship of Mr. Byers were turned over by him to the Editor during late winter. Because of a shortage of funds it proved impossible to publish the memoir, but five of the papers, including one by Mr. Byers, and the Introduction, also by him, will constitute the bulk of the January issue of AMERICAN ANTIQUITY.

We have attended all conferences within reach and taken part as follows. In March, Mr. Johnson attended a conference on the growth of salt marshes sponsored by the Marine Biological Laboratories of the University of Georgia, and at their invitation he presented a paper on the relation between salt marshes and Indian occupation in New England.

In May, both Mr. Johnson and Mr. Byers attended the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, held at the University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma. Mr. Johnson's term as a member of the Executive Committee of that Society expired April 30, 1958; Mr. Byers was elected to a two-year term on the Executive Committee at the same meeting. The newly-elected Executive Committee then appointed Mr. Johnson chairman of a committee charged with revising the Constitution of the Society, a task which he has performed twice before.

In November both Mr. Byers and Mr. Johnson attended the Annual Meetings of the American Anthropological Association, held in Washington. Mr. Byers took part as discussant of a paper in a symposium on problems relating to the Iroquois and Cherokee, two groups with cognate speech.

In December, Mr. Byers and Mr. Johnson went to the Southeastern Archaeological conference at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. On the day after the conference they visited, as guests of Dr. Joffre Coe, some



extremely important sites on the gorge of the Yadkin River, near Badin, where there is a very long stratified record of human occupation.

There has been no field work, and few alarms and excursions; in early October Mr. Johnson spent a day in Chelmsford hoping that a bulldozer would uncover remains of an Indian settlement. Hopes proved to be groundless.

We have already mentioned the fact that we exchange publications with 86 institutions. Our library continues to grow, but we endeavor to control its rate of growth because of our limited space. We subscribe to 26 journals in our field. During the past year we have accessioned 120 volumes, including periodicals and other paperbacks which we have sent to the bindery.

Museum specimens to the number of 71, comprised in 9 accessions have been entered in our catalogue. These include study collections gathered in California and Arizona by members of the staff and friends when they were on trips, as well as plastic replicas of dart points found in association with bones of extinct animals at certain sites in the west.

We have the sad duty to inform you of the death of Charles E. Schofield, our janitor, on December 19, 1958. We have already alluded to this. We wish here to pay tribute to a man who was our loyal and uncomplaining friend for twenty-two years, who took pride in his work and in his building, and who stayed with the job out of loyalty in spite of a miserably low salary. To him is due credit for the appearance of the building and the condition of the floors. We all feel a great loss at his death. Added to our sorrow is the humiliation of seeing 22 years of faithful service pass unrecognized. Although he was covered by a small life insurance policy, Mr. Schofield died leaving no pension or other protection for his widow.

We should also report that Mrs. Carole A. Walker found it necessary to resign her position as Secretary and Assistant on November 30. We have had the great good fortune to find Mrs. H. T. Watkinson who has taken over this

position.

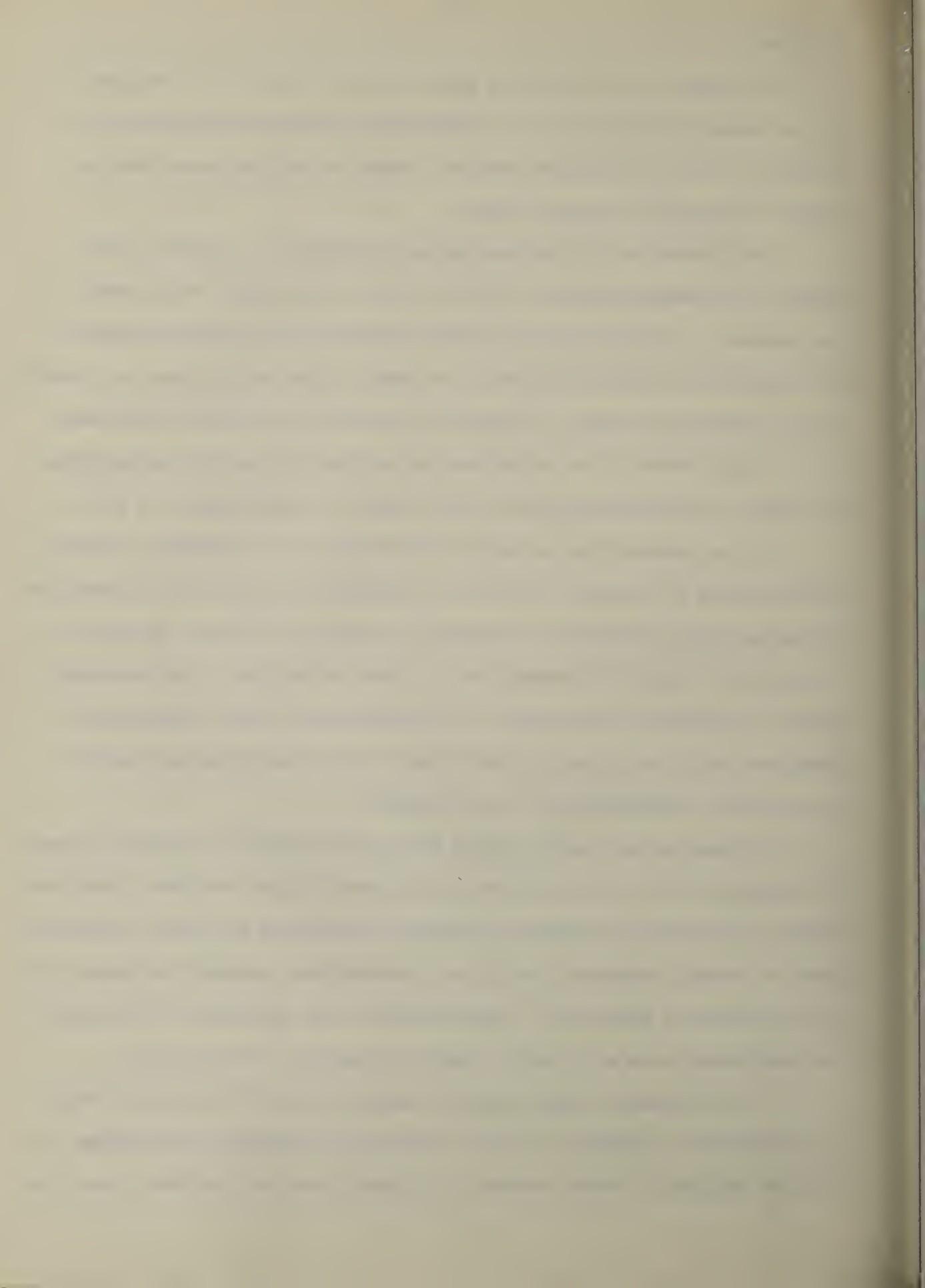
In summary, the high points which mark the trend of the development of the Foundation during the past twenty-five years have been presented in brief form. Out of them there emerges a number of guiding principles upon which our operations have been based.

The Foundation is an archaeological institution. As such it must maintain its standing within its field as well as its proper relationship to the Academy. An archaeological museum is measured by the productiveness of the research and other activities of its staff. When this falters the vitality of the organization fails. By research is meant the continual reassessment of the significance of its collections in the light of new data accumulating not only in its chosen area, but in the science of archaeology as a whole.

At the present time our major contribution to the Academy is indirect. By maintaining a reputable, active, and progressive archaeological foundation and museum which contributes to progress in science, we become recognized as a significant arm of the Academy, be it a most unusual one. The increasing number of visitors to the museum, and the meetings of local archaeological organizations in our library indicate that we are discharging our share of the Academy's responsibility to the community.

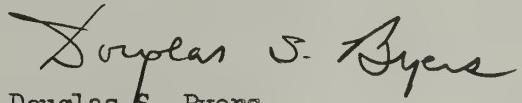
Although we have made progress toward the solution of certain problems, the progress which we have made has only exposed further problems. Relations between the prehistoric peoples of northern New England and those of adjacent parts of Canada, including Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Labrador and Quebec are only incompletely understood. Comprehension of the prehistory of this large and complicated area will require years of thoughtful investigations.

It will require time to complete manuscripts on field research which has already been completed. It will take money to publish these studies. It will be necessary to amass reserves to finance these publications. As we did

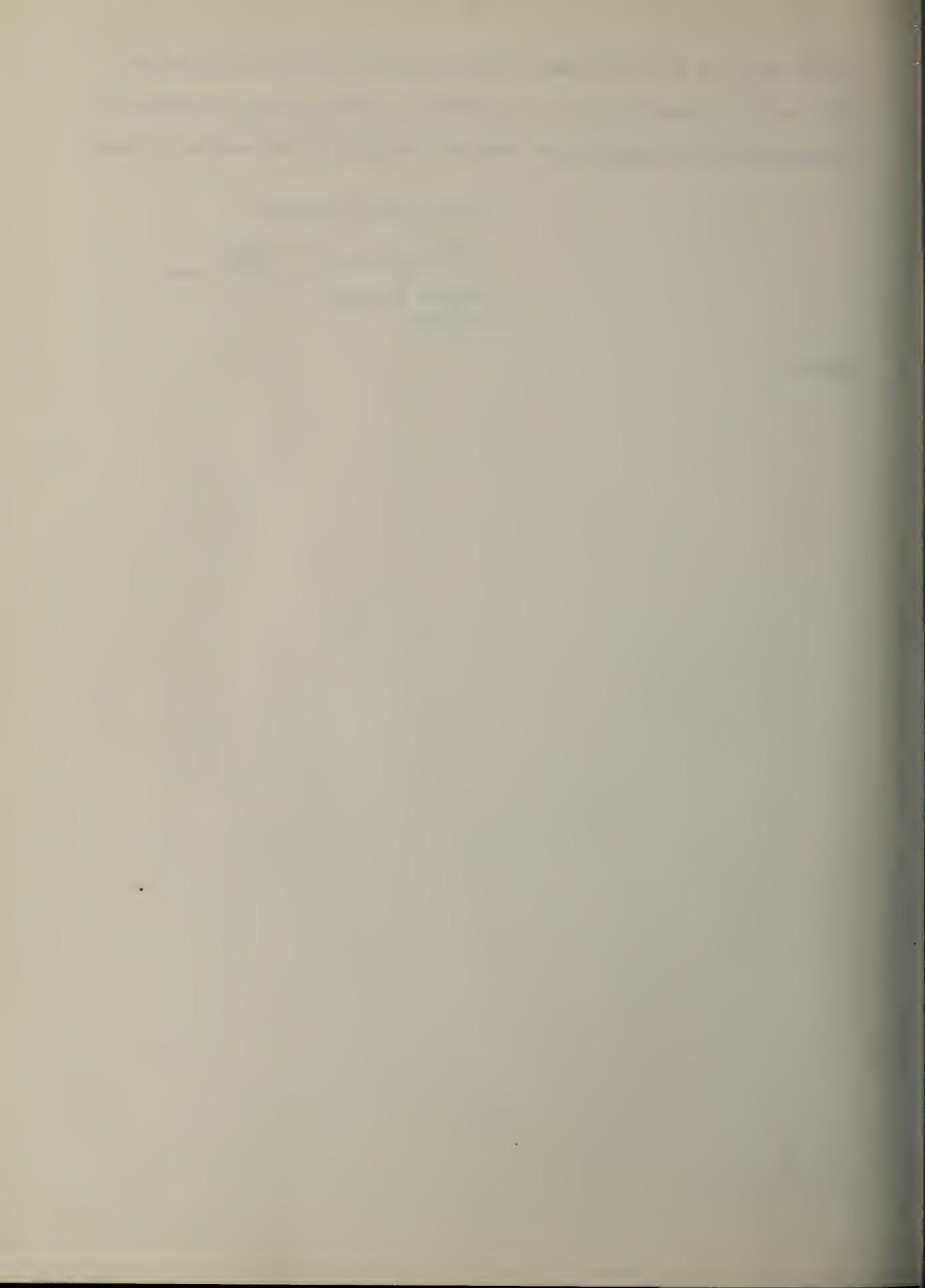


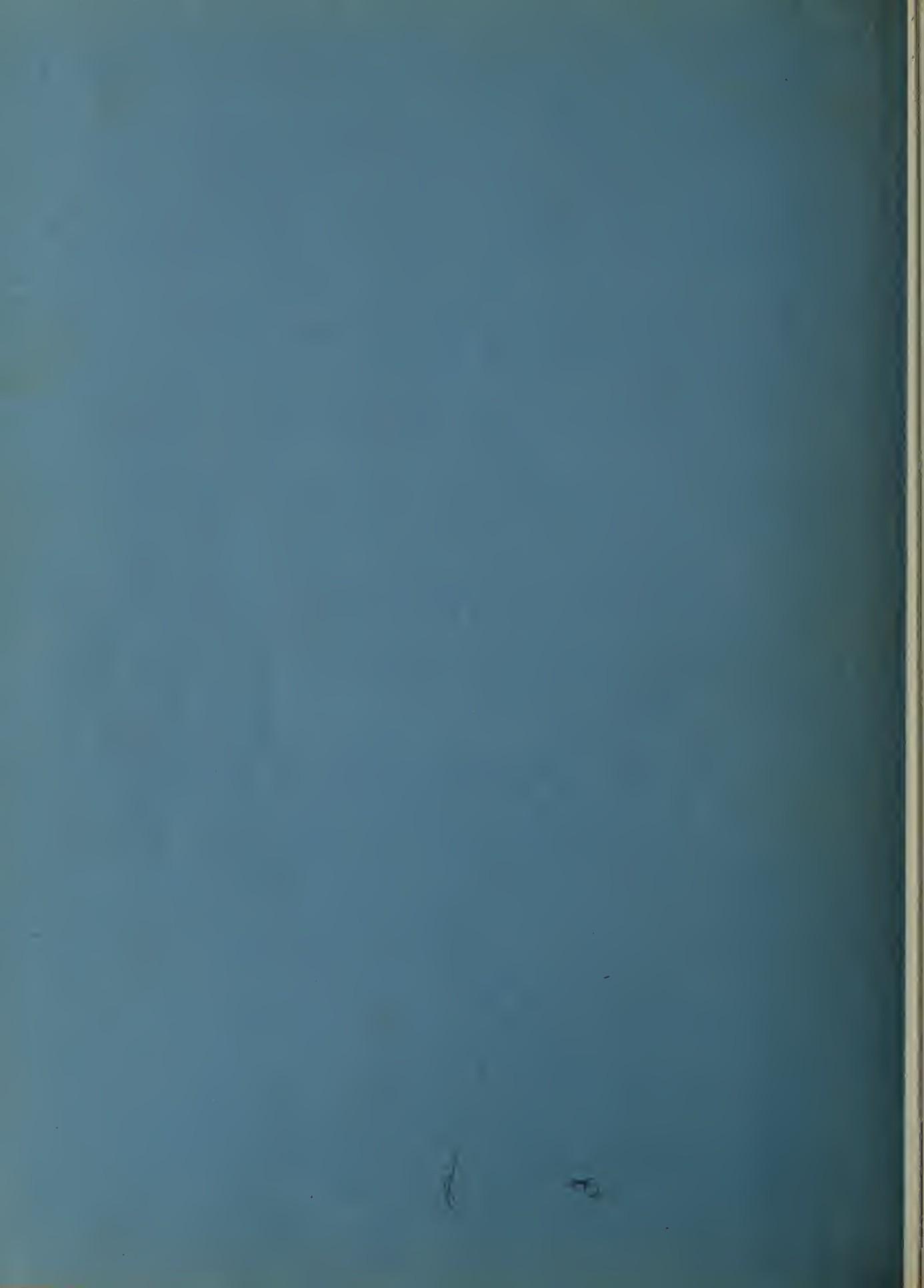
in the past, we will take money from income for a specific purpose and will see to it that results of our studies are made public as speedily as is consistent with complete and detailed analysis of the material in hand.

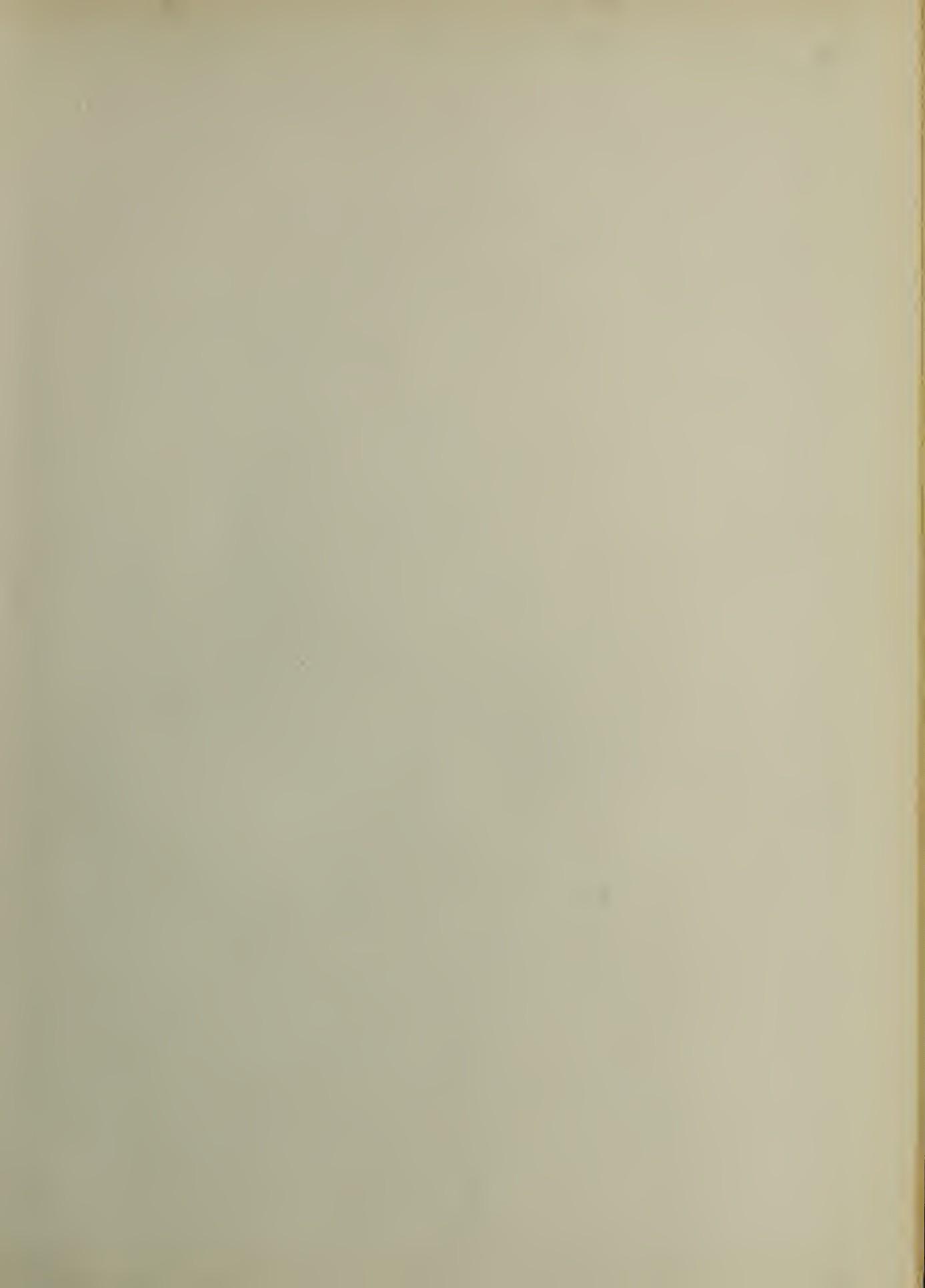
Respectfully submitted,


Douglas S. Byers
Director

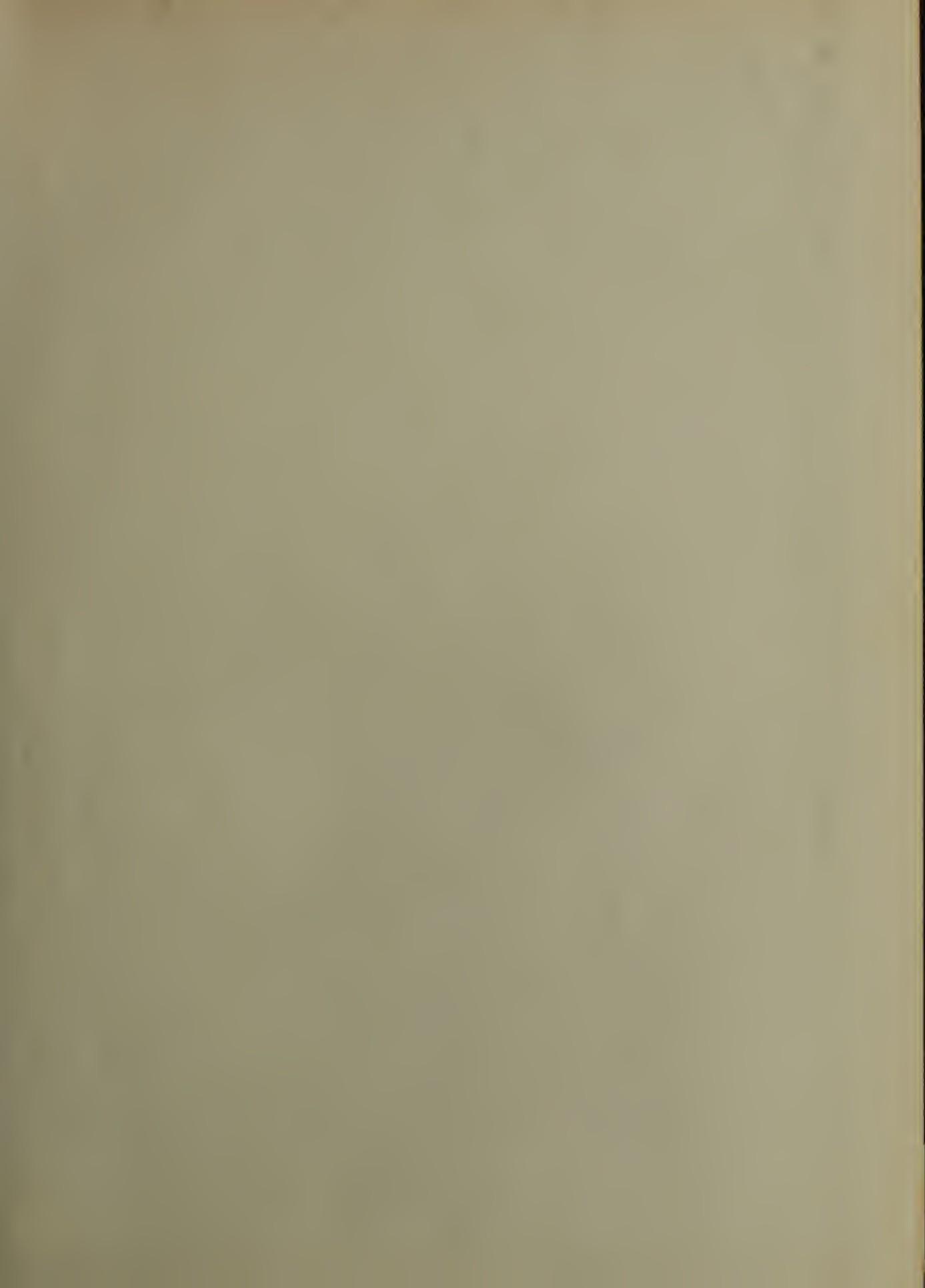
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